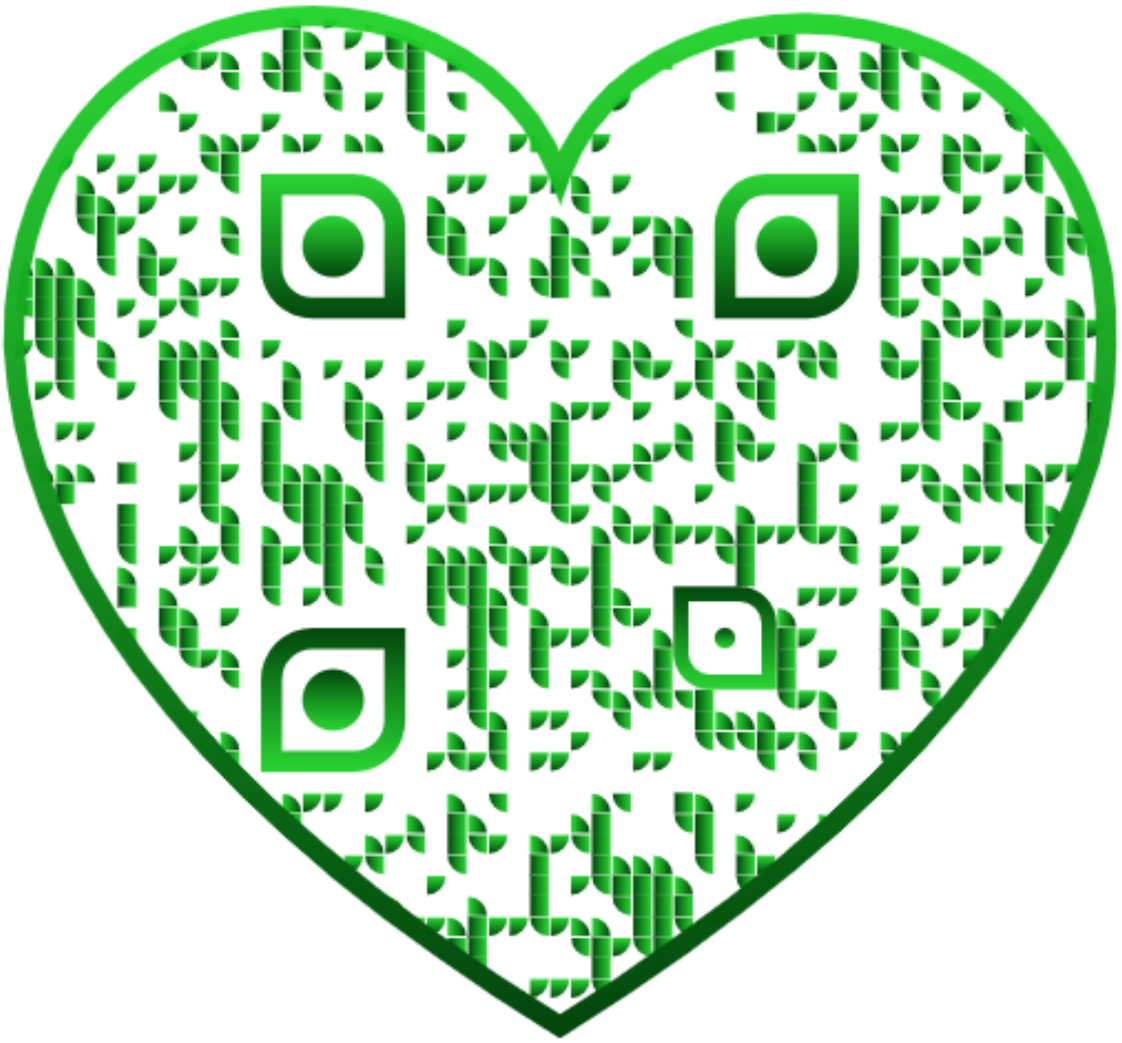
UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL PHENOMENA

THE STORY BEHIND THE STORY THE PENTAGON'S UFO REPORT

CONRAD BAUER



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The Story Behind the Story
The Pentagon's UFO Report

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The Pentagon Finally Weighs in on UFOs

In the past few years, UFOs have been all the rage in multiple mainstream news outlets. This would have been unheard of just a decade prior, but it wasn't exactly unforeseen. In fact, writer and UFO researcher Richard Dolan, in his 2012 book *A.D. After Disclosure*—which dealt with the hypothetical situation of what the world might be like after the government discloses all that it knows about UFOs—actually predicted it all.

Dolan speculated that if the mainstream media put aside its usual mockery of UFOs and began to report seriously on the phenomenon amid a steady drip of government disclosures, a major newspaper could very well begin to publish stories that previously would have been reserved for the tabloids: "The next edition of the *New York Times* would perhaps read alarmingly like many previous issues of the *National Enquirer*."

Ironically, it was indeed the *New York Times* that first broke the story of the Pentagon's modern-day UFO research in 2017. And yes, the headline of this secrecy-shattering story was indeed worthy of the *National Enquirer*: Glowing Auras and 'Black Money': The Pentagon's Mysterious UFO Program. In fact, Dolan's whole hypothetical scenario was bizarrely prophetic. He imagined the release date of an official government report on UFOs to be May of 2021; as it turned out, the report was issued in June of 2021. Dolan was even astute enough to predict that the report would be issued on a Friday evening so that the stock market and banks would already be closed and the public would have a whole weekend to digest what they were being told—and the Pentagon quietly released the much-vaunted report on the evening of Friday, June 25th, when most Americans were likely too distracted by their plans for the weekend to bother reading it. Now, all of this—at least as far as this writer knows—is just a coincidence, but you'd have to admit it's an uncanny one!

Despite the nonchalant manner in which it was dropped, the report is

groundbreaking. Although it does not cite any direct evidence of extraterrestrials or their craft, it admits that Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAPs, otherwise known as UFOs) are regularly showing up in restricted airspace. The report asserts that these phenomena are not the result of top-secret U.S. technology—and also casts doubt that they could be caused by a foreign adversary such as Russia or China. Of course, if this advanced technology is not from the United States, Russia, or China, there are very few possibilities left… and the report deliberately does not mention the most obvious one: that these crafts are not of this world.

So it seems that the Pentagon has given us a giant crossword puzzle, providing several clues and hints as to what the solution may be, but not going so far as to actually solve it for us. As usual, it's up to the average citizen to fill in the blanks. Here in this book, we will try to go the extra mile —where even Pentagon officials fear to tread—to see if we can finally find an answer to the UFO riddle once and for all.

Long Before the Recent Pentagon Report…

In many ways, the Pentagon report has been a refreshing experience. It's refreshing to see the U.S. government apparently in the trenches with both UFO researchers and the general public in an attempt to figure what the heck UFOs may be. But for many long-time followers of the phenomenon, such an earnest approach on the part of our government can't help but seem disingenuous at best—and outright deceptive at worst.

Long before this groundbreaking Pentagon report ever surfaced, many in the UFO world were crying foul about how the government has handled purported encounters with UFOs. The first and most infamous of these claims of governmental malpractice is the alleged mishandling of the Roswell Incident.

Roswell, of course, has become entirely synonymous with the discourse on aliens and UFOs. For better or for worse, the word Roswell brings to mind images of crashed spacecraft, stranded aliens, and a government cover-up. As of this writing, however, the U.S. government's official stance on this infamous incident hasn't changed: it wasn't an alien spacecraft that crashed in Roswell, New Mexico, but rather a high-altitude balloon.

This balloon was supposedly part of a top-secret program called Project Mogul whose main purpose was to detect nuclear test blasts in the Soviet Union. And the alleged aliens? The Pentagon states that they were nothing more than burned-up crash test dummies. According to the official version of events, all of the hubbub that led to the most infamous UFO event of all time was due to nothing more than ranchers and other local yokels stumbling a secret military operation.

For UFO researchers, however, this explanation is just not up to snuff. For one thing, crash test dummies were not used in high altitude testing until the 1950s—and the last time anyone checked, the Roswell incident occurred in

1947! Also, of course, the Pentagon's official account completely contradicts countless eyewitness accounts of what happened on that infamous day in Roswell. But perhaps nothing screams Pentagon cover-up more than the fact that in the immediate aftermath of the Roswell incident, Walter Haut, the public information officer of the nearby 509th Bomb Group, issued an official press release stating that the Army had "come into the possession of a flying disc."

Local newspapers quickly ran the release under their own sensational headlines, such as the *Roswell Daily Record*'s RAAF CAPTURES FLYING SAUCER ON RANCH IN ROSWELL REGION. But then Haut suddenly changed the official narrative, and all of the exciting talks of a downed alien spacecraft morphed into drab descriptions of a downed weather balloon. Many years later, Haut would suggest that the top brass had pressured him to change the original story—but what was most astonishing was his deathbed confession that "I am convinced that what I personally observed was some kind of craft and its crew from outer space."

Haut's dying words, therefore, seem to confirm what true believers of the Roswell incident have been claiming all along: not only did the U.S military recover the wreckage of a crashed alien spacecraft, they also recovered the dead bodies of the alien crew—and then they engineered a major cover-up. Long before the Pentagon report, all the way back to 1947, there has been a push for answers about UFOs.

The Pentagon's First UFO Report

Close on the heels of the Roswell incident in 1947, the U.S. government began its first serious study of UFOs, a military research effort known as Project Sign operated by General Nathan Twining out of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. Now, as any true UFO believer knows, it has long been rumored that the wreckage from Roswell was transferred to Wright-Patterson. Could it be that after looking over this unworldly debris, the military brass was looking for a "sign" that there was something more to it?

It certainly seemed that way, to begin with. According to Project Sign's lead investigator, Captain Edward J. Ruppelt, there were clear indications early on that the UFO phenomenon had extra-planetary origins. He believed that the aircraft in question was neither American nor Russian-made. This meant a lot since those two countries had by far the most advanced aeronautical technology at the time. If the craft were neither American nor Russian, they must have come from somewhere else—but not from anywhere else on Earth.

It's interesting to note that these preliminary findings of Project Sign, made all the way back in 1947, are strikingly similar to the findings of the Pentagon's 2021 UFO report. In both instances, the U.S. government has denied ownership of demonstrably advanced aircraft, and in both instances, it has ruled out its technological peers, Russia and (in 2021) China. Neither report comes out and says that the craft are extraterrestrial in origin, but a simple process of elimination tells us that they probably are. No one on Earth is capable of making these advanced crafts; therefore, they were not made on Earth.

But this simple logic doesn't seem to have sat well with the Pentagon of the late 40s, and soon a new UFO study group was convened with the express purpose of finding alternative explanations. This revamped effort was called Project Grudge, and just by the name alone you can tell that the Pentagon had a bit of an ax to grind when it came to explaining away UFOs.

For those who worked on Grudge, it became absolutely clear that the main aim was to come up with earthly explanations for UFO sightings. Incidents that had previously been deemed credible were suddenly being explained away as nothing more than the planet Venus, or perhaps a bad case of swamp gas. It didn't matter how absurd the explanation might be; if it could possibly be used to mask what witnesses had seen, it was pushed out to the American public as the truth.

Considering how quickly the Pentagon switched from the open-minded Project Sign to the close-minded debunking efforts of Project Grudge, one has to wonder if we might see a similar about-face in the 2020s. As open-minded as the 2021 Pentagon report is, will someone, somewhere in the upper echelons of government order another Project Grudge style claw-back that suddenly labels all UFO sightings as hoaxes, hallucinations, or swamp gas?

At any rate, after Project Grudge debunked the majority of UFO sightings reported by the late 1940s, it was itself succeeded by the better-known Project Blue Book. Taking its name from the blue essay books used for testing at academic institutions, Blue Book was designed to be more thorough than either the open-minded Project Sign or the decidedly close-minded Project Grudge. It was initially headed once again by Captain Ruppelt—a promising sign for UFO buffs—but after several shuffles of the Blue Book deck Major Hector Quintanilla ended up in charge. When Blue Book was shut down in 1970, Quintanilla's final report announced that there was "no evidence" that UFOs had anything to do with aliens, and furthermore stated that whatever they were, they were not a threat to national security.

Interestingly enough, the 2021 Pentagon report echoes these conclusions by saying right off the bat that there is "no evidence" that UFOs are alien in origin. Direct evidence, that is—even though the Pentagon's own process of elimination seems to make the possibility very likely. Remember that saying there is "no evidence" of something doesn't mean that that thing is impossible, or even improbable; it's just stating that there is nothing along the lines of alien hardware or actual aliens that can be displayed to the public. While conspiracy theorists would contend that the Pentagon does indeed have solid evidence of alien presence, even if they don't, that certainly doesn't rule

out aliens—and neither does the 2021 report.

The one point on which the 2021 UFO report seems to differ from the 1970 findings of Blue Book is over whether UFOs are a national security threat. The 2021 report states that "UAP clearly pose a safety of flight issue and may pose a challenge to U.S. national security." If nothing else, flying saucers have been deemed dangerous to pilots who might run into them up in the air! This is certainly different from Blue Book's declaration that UFOs pose no threat whatsoever.

How the 2021 UFO Report was Made Possible

The rush to disclose what the Pentagon supposedly knows about UAPs can be traced back to a little-known ranch in northeastern Utah. Popularly known as the Skinwalker Ranch, this site is said to have hosted repeated and routine paranormal phenomena for several decades—if not centuries. The ranch is located on a spot of land that Native Americans believe to be haunted by legendary creatures called skinwalkers. There is a lot to unpack with all this, but lest we stray from why the Skinwalker ranch is important to this current bid to disclose government data on UFOs, we will be as brief as possible.

The ranch first came to public attention after it was purchased by one Tom Gorman. He and his family had several frightening experiences over the years, including the appearance of "interdimensional gateways" through which UFOs and even stranger entities supposedly entered and exited our reality. Sure, it sounds fairly far-fetched, but whatever was going on at the ranch, this family became so spooked that by the mid-1990s they were desperate to sell the property.

It was billionaire inventor and developer Robert Bigelow who came to the rescue. Most people wouldn't leap at the chance to buy a haunted house, but as it turns out, a paranormal hot spot like this was just what Bigelow was looking for. He had already kick-started his own paranormal research outfit called the National Institute for Discovery Science (NIDS), and Skinwalker Ranch seemed like the perfect place for experimenting with the unknown.

The NIDS team brought great scientific minds and tremendous resources (in other words, big Bigelow bucks!) to try to document the bizarre happenings at Skinwalker Ranch. Although the personnel posted there experienced a wide range of strange phenomena, they obtained very little hard evidence—but it wasn't for a lack of trying. It seemed that whatever forces were at work on the ranch were quite camera-shy.

Whenever recording equipment was present, they would make themselves scarce, only to return when the camera wasn't rolling. It sounds absurd, but the researchers felt that some sort of unknown intelligence was behind all of the paranormal manifestations and that it actively manipulated the situation so it could harass them without leaving any lasting evidence behind. In one incident, for example, several carefully placed cameras were found to have been disabled right before a massive manifestation occurred.

After several rounds of startling but inconclusive incidents at the ranch, Bigelow decided to move on. He ended up selling the property in 2016, but not before striking up a dialogue with a scientist from the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA). This man had participated in other research at the ranch in the past, and on one occasion he had supposedly witnessed "a 3D object" materialize out of thin air before vanishing right in front of his eyes. Understandably, this individual was very interested in the anomalies at the ranch—and he also wanted to bring Bigelow on board for a government study of UFOs. It was this connection that would ultimately lead the Pentagon to create a secret UFO study group.

Harry Reid, John Podesta, and the Politics of UFOs

Harry Reid served as a U.S. Senator for the state of Nevada from 1987 to 2017, and somewhere within that span of 30 years, he became incredibly interested in UFOs. Coming from Nevada may have had something to do with that since it is of course Nevada which houses the infamous military installation known as Area 51.

The whistle on Area 51 was first blown in 1989 by Bob Lazar, who claimed to have worked there in 1988 as a research scientist in a program attempting to reverse engineer alien technology. According to Lazar, everything at the base was highly compartmentalized and only accessible to those with high-security clearances. Although he was never directly told that UFOs had been recovered, or that the United States was aware of an extraterrestrial presence on the planet, these things were heavily implied throughout his time at Area 51.

On his very first day, in fact, he was handed a sheaf of top-secret documents and left to go over them for himself. One of those documents *did* state that aliens were real, that they had visited Earth, and that their spacecraft had been recovered. Lazar never spoke with anyone about what he read, and to this day he doesn't know if the documents were authentic or an attempt at disinformation.

What he does know is that he was given access to anti-gravitational technology unheard of in mainstream science. Specifically, he and a coworker were given an anti-gravitational device and tasked with trying to figure out how it worked. The number one clue that this equipment was not "Made in the USA" was, of course, the fact that no one *knew* how it worked —and although Lazar and his partner worked a day in and day out trying to unlock the secrets of this mind-boggling technology, they made very little progress themselves.

Lazar ended up leaving the project in frustration, and shortly thereafter, he came to believe that he was being followed, bullied, and harassed by his former employers. After someone shot at his car on the freeway, he began to fear for his life and broke his silence by contacting Nevada investigative journalist George Knapp. Knapp is now a big name in UFO circles because of his involvement with so many aspects of the phenomenon, but he cut his teeth by bringing Bob Lazar's Area 51 story to the world.

Now, to make our long story just a little bit shorter, let's fast forward to the mid-1990s when it was none other than George Knapp who got Senator Harry Reid interested in UFOs. In 1996, Knapp invited Reid to attend a UFO conference, and Reid said sure, as long as he could remain completely anonymous—he had a reputation to maintain and reelection to think about, and he did not want to be perceived as a kook for being involved in a subject usually relegated to the lunatic fringe.

Soon afterward, Knapp introduced Reid to Bruce Bigelow, the billionaire investor whose NIDS research group was busy investigating the infamous Skinwalker Ranch. Reid soon became an enthusiastic participant in discussions with Bigelow and Knapp on the UFO phenomenon.

Of course, back in those days, Senator Reid had to keep these doings on the down-low. As he later recalled, "I had my staff, I had lots of people who said: 'You are going to get yourself in trouble, stay the hell away from that.' A lot of people said it would ruin my career." Only recently, now that the mainstream media and the general public have become more tolerant of UFO believers, has Reid been able to come out of the UFO closet.

Nevertheless, behind the scenes, Reid started to work as an active partner with Bigelow and Knapp on the latest developments in UFO research. He also began to quietly speak upon the matter to some of his colleagues, including Ohio Senator John Glenn. Glenn, of course, was a former astronaut himself, and he probably seemed like the logical member of Congress to talk to about objects supposedly originating in outer space. But it turned out that Glenn wasn't too thrilled about becoming the public face of the UFO phenomenon, likely for the same reasons as Reid himself. Reid had to turn elsewhere.

Eventually, he found support from two other senators—Alaska's Ted Stevens and Hawaii's Daniel Inouye. To Reid's pleasant surprise, Stevens in particular was very interested in what he had to say about UFOs. Stevens wasn't an astronaut, but he had served as a pilot during World War II and had encountered several strange unidentified objects during his missions. Reid had barely broached the subject when Stevens told him, "I've heard enough. Since I was a pilot in World War II, I've been tremendously curious, concerned about stuff that we don't know anything about. I was in my airplane alone and off to my left was an object. I could see it. It was so close to me. I would veer up, down, sideways. Wherever I went, it was there. I was starting to get low on fuel, went and landed, and went to the air traffic controller. I said, 'Was there anybody up in the air with me?' The guy said, 'I don't know what you're talking about!'"

The triumvirate of Reid, Stevens, and Inouye managed to secure funding for a secret Defense Department study of UFOs. This Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP), which at one time had an annual budget of 22 million dollars, would remain unknown to the public until 2017. From 2008, it was headed by Luis "Lue" Elizondo, who collated countless reports by pilots and other military personnel of strange things infiltrating U.S. airspace. Elizondo consulted with all manner of experts who studied film footage, radar readouts, and thermal imaging to try to figure out what these things were, but no one seemed to have any answers.

When the UFOs began buzzing sensitive military installations, Elizondo sought to escalate the matter, but he repeatedly hit a brick wall. His last major push to bring awareness to these intrusions came in 2017 when he sought to bring Secretary of Defense James Mattis on board. Try as he might, however, Elizondo was never able to get through to Mattis, and he "grew increasingly frustrated by the lack of resources and interest by senior leadership. UAP (Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon) reporting to our office was increasing, yet our resources were minimal, and leadership involvement was almost nonexistent." This was the moment that Elizondo decided to leave the program, and shortly after he did so, the *New York Times* blew the whole thing out of the water in an exclusive piece that was released in December of 2017.

But AATIP wasn't the only heavily funded UFO project around. There was also the Rockefeller Initiative, funded by Robert Bigelow during the presidency of Bill Clinton back in the 1990s. This effort was spearheaded by the since passed Laurance Rockefeller, who worked with the Clinton administration to get to the bottom of top-secret UFO files. There is unfortunately little indication of what—if anything—this group was able to dredge up, but Bill and Hillary Clinton did indeed hold meetings with Rockefeller on the subject. One of them, held at a Rockefeller property in Wyoming, produced the infamous photo-op of Hillary posing with a book titled *Are We Alone? Philosophical Implications of the Discovery of Extraterrestrial Life.*

More controversially, the Rockefeller Initiative provided some funding to UFO researchers such as Harvard's late John Mack, an eager proponent of alien abduction claims. It seems that the Clintons were not involved in these efforts, though; as Larry Holcombe put it in his book *The Presidents and UFOs*, which covered some aspects of this episode, they supported the Rockefeller Initiative at arm's length and developed a rather "patronizing" attitude toward the researchers.

Although the Rockefeller Initiative largely came to naught, one member of the Clinton administration who was very much interested in UFOs was White House Chief of Staff John Podesta. In a sign of the increasing acceptance of the UFO phenomenon, Podesta went on to work as a transition chief for President Obama even after making his views on the matter public during a speaking engagement at the National Press Club: "I think it's time to open the books on questions that have remained in the dark on the question of UFOs. It's time to find out what the truth really is that's out there. We ought to do it because it is right. We ought to do it because the American people, quite frankly, can handle the truth, and we ought to do it because it is the law."

When Podesta left the Obama administration in 2014, he also left an infamous post on Twitter stating that his greatest regret was "not securing" the release of the government's "UFO files." But Podesta would remain a key cog in the wheel of UFO disclosure efforts, and by 2015 he would team up with a most unlikely source to try to break down governmental red tape

around UFOs once and for all.

How a Punk Rocker Punked the UFO World

Who would have thought that the front man from a punk rock group called Blink 182 would lead the charge for UFO disclosure? As out there as UFO research may be, Tom DeLonge really did seem to come right out of left field in 2015 when he decided to pull a Robert Bigelow and put his money into funding his own UFO research group called To the Stars… Academy of Arts & Sciences (To the Stars or TTSA).

DeLonge sought to assemble highly qualified people with deep connections in sensitive departments so that they could quietly work on the UFO enigma: "From day one, I figured I needed knights of the round table. I needed a whole Camelot of scholars and each of them had a different piece that really helped me. It was the military, it was the intelligence, it was engineering. It was an executive branch."

And DeLonge's most prominent early resource from the executive branch was none other than John Podesta. In 2016, a private email revealed to the world through WikiLeaks displayed some tidbits of a very interesting conversation that the two were having about UFOs and "Classified Science and DOD topics." Tom DeLonge involved in DOD (Department of Defense) topics? This probably seemed like a joke to most of us back in 2016—but in just a few years later, in 2019, it was revealed that DeLonge's To the Stars was partnering with the DOD in research on "exotic metals and beamed energy propulsion." It would seem that the joke was on us.

In the meantime, DeLonge was busy cold calling everyone in the Pentagon he thought might be involved with UFO research. One of these calls got him on the line with Luis Elizondo, who as we saw in the previous chapter most definitely *was* involved as the director of AATIP. And despite numerous efforts to disparage him, it's obvious that he's not some random whack job. The son of a Cuban exile who came to the United States to escape Fidel Castro's communist regime—and who then participated in the failed U.S.

government attempt to overthrow that regime—Elizondo followed in his father's footsteps by embarking upon a career in military intelligence that spanned two decades and culminated in his participation in post-9/11 interrogations of suspected terrorists. It was under the auspices of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence (OUSDI) that he was tapped for AATIP in 2008, probably, he says, because of his unique background in "hunting terrorists and spies."

By the time Elizondo resigned in protest at the Pentagon's lack of funding and interest in AATIP and the *New York Times* shocked the world with its report on the program, Tom DeLonge was sitting pretty from his perch in Twitter remarking that "Luis Elizondo, @TTS Academy's Director of Global Security & Special Programs and former manager of the USG Advanced Aerial Threat Identification Program, is featured on the front page of NYT. Doesn't get bigger than that." Yes, as it pertains to a certain punk rocker who managed to punk the whole UFO world—it most certainly does not.

The Main Sightings Showcased in the Report

Now that we've gone over some of the backstories behind this hallmark UFO report from the Pentagon, let's take a closer look at the actual sightings and encounters involving U.S. military personnel that it showcases. All in all, the report categorizes 143 out of 144 sightings as still unexplained. In other words, *only one* reported UAP turned out to have a rational explanation. As for the remaining 143 unsolved UAP incidents, here are some of the most infamous:

The 2004 USS *Nimitz* Encounter (The Tic Tac UFO)

Out of all of the UAP incidents, the Tic Tac UFO sighted by the USS *Nimitz* has received by far the most attention. In this 2004 encounter, the 15-billion-dollar aircraft carrier USS *Nimitz*, equipped with the world's best sensor technology and sailing in well-known waters near the shores of San Diego, California, came face to face with the unknown.

When the ship's radar operators picked up a fleet of 10 unknown objects in restricted airspace, they figured that it was either a serious incursion into U.S. territorial waters—or a serious equipment malfunction. Erring on the side of caution, the *Nimitz* scrambled fighters to intercept the objects. Pilots Lieutenant Commander Alex Dietrich and Commander Dave Fravor soon found themselves right on top of a strange craft they could only describe as an oblong "white tic tac" skipping around just above the water, hovering and maneuvering in a highly erratic manner. They decided that Dietrich would stay up above, circling the craft from on high, while Fravor went down for a closer look.

As soon as Fravor began to descend, though, the object began to *ascend*. As he went down, it rose up, and soon it was seemingly mimicking his every move. At one point it got right in front of him and he could see it at close

range. He was shocked by what he saw. Here was a solid oblong object, with no wings, and no sign of propulsion, conducting impossible yet obviously intelligent maneuvers.

For those who gripe about UFO witnesses not taking high-quality photos, well, Fravor honestly didn't have a chance. The craft was only directly in front of him for a split second before it flat-out vanished right before his eyes. Fravor had no idea what had just happened, and neither did Dietrich circling above him. The object was there, and then it was simply nowhere to be seen. No time to take a photo—no time to do anything but wonder what the hell had just happened.

This wasn't the end of the story, though, because no sooner had the object disappeared from the pilots' view, it instantly *reappeared* some 60 miles away on the *Nimitz*'s radar screens. More fighters were scrambled, and one of them managed to capture the craft on its infrared targeting camera. The glimpse was fleeting before the object rocketed off once again, but it was profound. Filmed by Lieutenant Commander Chad Underwood, the object appears to dart across the screen at tremendous speed.

As incredible as this 2004 sighting was, the military climate was very hostile to eyewitness reports of the extraordinary encounter. Both Dietrich and Fravor recall being mercilessly ridiculed over what both they and the radar had seen so clearly. According to Dietrich, as soon as they got back onboard the *Nimitz*, their superior officers laughed the whole thing off as a big joke, even though everyone knew what they'd seen—and knew it was real.

From the USS *Theodore Roosevelt* in 2015 (Gimbal and Go Fast)

In January of 2015, off the east coast of Florida, the nuclear aircraft carrier USS *Theodore Roosevelt* encountered some very strange and fast-flying objects. The infamous "Go Fast" video, which was leaked to the internet before being confirmed by the Pentagon as an officially documented UAP, consists of infrared footage taken from a pursuing Super Hornet fighter jet

that had been launched from the *Theodore Roosevelt* to investigate strange happenings in the vicinity.

The first few seconds of the footage documents a UFO hurtling through the air. The object is going so fast that attempts to lock onto it are initially unsuccessful. The amazement of the Super Hornet pilots is obvious as one of them is heard exclaiming, "What the f—k is that thing?" Before the videos for Gimbal and Go Fast were officially authenticated, it was actually some of this audio chatter that gave them away. One of the pilots in the incident, Ryan Graves, came forward and identified some of the voices. He recognized one of them as his Weapon Systems Officer (WSO) remarking that "there is a whole fleet of them."

That WSO chose to remain anonymous, but Ryan Graves has been most forthcoming in his account of what happened that day. He was the star witness at a classified meeting debriefing Congress on the matter of UAPs, and while no one came away from this meeting claiming that aliens are behind all UAPs, attendees were astonished by what they heard and began pressing for more answers.

According to the unclassified version of events, Graves revealed that he was part of a strike fighter squadron nicknamed the Red Rippers that was based in Virginia and tasked with patrolling the Eastern Seaboard. They were on a routine patrol when "mysterious radar tracks" emerged on their sensors. They weren't sure if these were glitches or actual physical objects, and the only way to find out was to pursue them.

However, they fully expected that the blips on the radar would turn out to be what the Air Force calls "phantom tracks"—false positives thrown up by the system when nothing is actually there. When they got up close, though, they were in for a shock, because the objects were indeed real—and unlike anything, they had seen before. One of them appeared to be a "cube inside of a sphere with the edges of the cube touching the sphere." They had no idea what this thing was, and how it was aloft in the air performing maneuvers was also completely beyond their understanding.

And according to Graves, this was just the first of many such incidents. All

throughout 2015, they saw these things on an almost daily basis. The most startling encounter was when one of the craft hurtled between two fighter jets flying just 150 feet apart. Whatever these objects were, and wherever they came from, they obviously presented a flight risk at the very least, and so the Red Rippers sent off a mishap report to the air flight safety center for the East Coast. This report, however, was apparently ignored.

According to Graves, the infamous Gimbal video, which shows a disc-shaped craft rotating and remaining completely stationary against 120 knots of wind, was taken during this particular UFO flap. Not only that, he claims that what has been released to the public is only part of the story. He maintains that there exists a longer and higher resolution video that shows this object as well as a fleet of smaller objects swarming around it—apparently the "fleet" that the anonymous WSO refers to when he exclaims, "There's a whole fleet of them!" The video seen by the public takes place immediately after this fleet had shot away from the main object.

The 2019 USS *Russell* Engagement with Flying Triangles

In the summer of 2019, three pyramidal UAPs were spotted flying over and around the USS *Russell* while the ship was on station off the California coast near San Diego. The objects flew very close and at one point floated some 700 feet directly above the rear quarter of the ship. Just imagine the sailors aboard this destroyer running around looking up at these UFOs and wondering if they were about to get beamed up! This was indeed a close encounter of the unknown kind.

But what was most disconcerting was the fact that the *Russell* was engaging in important military exercises which these objects "brazenly' interrupted by darting around the ship and performing confounding maneuvers. They flew with absolute impunity and almost seemed to be intentionally making a mockery of the military exercises and daring the U.S. Navy to do something about it.

Shortly after the video of this craft was released, the Pentagon officially confirmed that it was authentic, with DOD spokeswoman Susan Gough stating, "I can confirm that the referenced photos and videos were taken by Navy personnel."

Also in 2019… The USS *Omaha* Sighting (UFO Submerges into the Ocean)

The infrared footage taken of an object seemingly harassing the USS *Omaha* is one of the most stunning UAP videos to date because it clearly shows a solid object hovering over the ocean before it drops down and plunges into the water below in what is apparently a controlled maneuver. This occurred in July of 2019 after *Omaha*'s radar sensors picked up some 14 nearby UFOs, one of which was traveling extremely fast. The radar also captured the sudden disappearance of the submersible object.

UFO investigator Jeremy Corbell has taken a thorough look at this incident, which according to his contacts was by no means an isolated one. Corbell has learned that eight other Navy vessels were similarly "swarmed" by UFOs during the summer of 2019—and hard data from the radar coupled with infrared camera footage clearly demonstrates that these were real objects that "are not easily explained."

If They're Real—Where are They From?

E.T. phone home? The famous catchphrase of the lovable alien from the movie *E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial* begs the question: where is home? Ever since the prospect of alien visitation was first raised, people have proffered a wide variety of possible points of origin for said aliens. In this chapter, we will explore some of the places that folks have postulated that ET may come from.

Another Planet (or Moon) in Our Own Solar System

In the early days of speculation about aliens, it was easy to assume that if aliens existed, they could exist on another planet in our very own solar system. Venus, Mars, and even Jupiter were frequent suggestions right through the 1950s. It wasn't until NASA and the Soviet space program began sending probes to our planetary neighbors that it became obvious that these worlds are inhospitable to life. Venus was revealed to be a hellish inferno, hot enough to melt lead, while Mars was found to be a cold, barren world of red rocks, a thin atmosphere, and not a whole lot else. Nevertheless, our own solar system cannot be ruled out entirely as an origin point for ETs.

More recent revelations in regard to gas giant moons have once again raised the possibility that there could be another world in our solar system that could sustain life. Jupiter, Saturn, and Neptune's moons have all piqued interest as places where life might be possible. Jupiter's moons Ganymede and Europa are both covered in ice, but it has been hypothesized that there may be liquid oceans underneath this ice. The same goes for Saturn's moon Enceladus. Even though these moons are farther from the Sun than Earth, they are subjected to tidal heating from the gas giants they orbit. So it is that many have wondered what might lurk underneath the ice of these moons. Could

there be alien fish swimming about—or perhaps even an alien underwater civilization?

As far-fetched as that might sound, in some ways it would actually be a relatively plausible origin for ET visitors. If aliens live underneath the ice of Europa or Enceladus, it would be a fairly simple matter to send spacecraft to Earth using technology not much more advanced than our own. On the other hand, if aliens came from another star system, one of the biggest mysteries would be how they broke the speed of light to get here.

Although science fiction is full of ways to sidestep Albert Einstein's celestial speed limit—think of warp drives, worm holes, and hyperspace—actual *science* has no idea how to make it happen. But we ourselves have sent probes to the farthest reaches of the outer solar system, and if this is feasible for human beings, there's no reason to think it wouldn't be feasible for any neighboring ETs.

Another point in favor of the theory that UFOs come from the frozen ocean of a gas giant's moon is how many of them seem to be able to submerge themselves in water just as easily as they fly through the air. One of the most stunning documented accounts from the Pentagon's 2021 report showcases a video in which a UFO hovers over the surface of the ocean before suddenly plunging down deep into the water. The Navy scoured the area for several hours but never found the craft or any wreckage. This UFO, at least, was apparently a "trans-medium" vehicle able to operate in both the air and the water with absolute ease.

So yes, although during the second half of the 20th century it seemed rather unlikely that ETs might be hiding out in our solar system, that possibility is now very much back on the table.

Another Star System

That said, many UFO researchers still consider another star system as the most likely point of origin for visiting ETs. As mentioned earlier, the biggest problem with this idea is how these aliens might have learned to travel faster

than the speed of light. It is generally assumed that they must have achieved this milestone; otherwise, the distances involved would simply be too great to make interstellar space exploration practical. Even if aliens hailed from the closest star system, Alpha Centauri, which is around four light-years away, routine sub-light-speed missions would be quite cumbersome.

Let's say, for example, that our hypothetical Alpha Centauri aliens can travel at close to the speed of light, but are unable to break the light barrier. That means that it would take them over four years to get to Earth, and then over four years to get back to Alpha Centauri. This might be practical for occasional exploratory visits, but it would not allow the routine UFO incursions that we are allegedly seeing in our skies.

Then again, faster-than-light (FTL) travel may be more achievable than commonly believed. The U.S. Army has recently been granted several patents on exotica such as wormholes and warp drives, and AATIP itself looked into "Detection and High-Resolution Tracking of Vehicles at Hypersonic Velocities, Warp Drive, Dark Energy, and the Manipulation of Extra Dimensions." It's amazing to think that there are a couple of patents for a warp drive in circulation right now, even though they're just ideas on paper at this point. Whether an actual device can ever be constructed, or the mammoth amount of energy needed to power it can ever be produced, still remains to be seen.

Nevertheless, earthly scientists seem to have become increasingly open to the possibility. And if us humans, who have only just begun space travel, may be on the cusp of figuring such things out, ETs who are 500 to 1,000 years more advanced than us could well have mastered the art of FTL travel a long time ago. Although it's not exactly clear how long trips between stars might take with a functioning warp drive, if it's feasible, it could very well make interstellar travel more or less routine.

Another Galaxy

The idea of aliens coming from another galaxy is basically the same as them coming from another star system, except the aliens would come from much

further out. Us Earthlings live in the Milky Way Galaxy, and the closest other collection of stars is the Andromeda Galaxy, which sits some two-and-a-half million light-years away. It would indeed be impressive if aliens can traverse between galaxies. If they can travel millions of light-years in a reasonable amount of time, they could most likely travel to just about any corner of the entire universe with relative ease.

A Parallel Universe

Physicists often believe in concepts much more extravagant than the average person would ever entertain. Many of them will tell you with a completely straight face that we live in a multiverse, meaning that there are other dimensions or parallel universes right beside our own. And some propose that this fact (if it is a fact) could explain some of the strange glitches and oddities of our own reality.

Physicist Michio Kaku, for example, has suggested that the common experience of déjà vu could be the result of our close proximity to parallel universes. (Déjà vu [French for "already seen"] is that strange sensation of having seen or done something before when logically we know that we never have.) Kaku cites the work of fellow physicist Steven Winberg suggesting that the "vibrating atoms" of our bodies are specifically in tune with our local universe. He describes this as being akin to a radio tuned in to a specific station.

Although there are other radio stations out there (just like there are other universes), the radio only receives one at a time. Every so often, however, the signal gets disrupted, and the signal from another station bleeds through—as when you're listening to a music station and the news report of the next station on the dial suddenly plays over the top of the music. Kaku contends that our very being, made up of vibrating atoms, might occasionally pick up artifacts from a parallel universe in an analogous manner.

And just like you can adjust your radio dial when you want to listen to another station, it might be possible that some advanced civilization has figured out how to change the frequencies of their very atoms and travel

between parallel universes. This would mean that ETs aren't so much from outer space as from "inner space." This is a favored theory of former AATIP director Luis Elizondo.

The Future

As strange as it may sound, more than a few people have speculated that UFOs and their crew might actually be human beings from the future. They don't look quite like we do, the theory goes because they have either evolved or purposefully changed themselves through genetic engineering. Although both their technology and biology are unrecognizable to us, ETs are simply future humans coming back to check on their ancestors.

One UFO encounter that seems to support this sentiment is the so-called Rendlesham Forest incident. During this strange ordeal, U.S. military personnel stationed in England found a strange craft of unknown origin near their base, and one of them allegedly received a message from it indicating that it was from the future and had come to study the past of humanity.

Underground, Underwater, or another Remote Location on Earth

There are also those who wonder if UFOs are not arriving from outside the Earth but rather from some remote part of our own planet. Since the UFO phenomenon began, there has been speculation that they originate from an unknown civilization that resides underground. Since we certainly don't know what all is located under the depths of the soil, such a thing is technically possible.

Even more intriguing are theories that UFOs might represent a civilization that lives under the water. They say that we know more about the surface of the moon than the bottom of the ocean floor, so we really have no idea what could be lurking down there in the deep. There are also other remote locations on the surface of the planet, such as Antarctica, which have been

postulated as potential points of origin of UFOs.

Hell Itself

Perhaps the most intriguing theory behind the UFO enigma is that the so-called aliens visiting our planet are not aliens at all—but rather fallen angels. It has long been speculated that the discovery of aliens would disrupt the Christian worldview, and possibly as a defense against this, some Christians have argued that the UFO phenomenon is demonic in origin.

Interestingly enough, according to Luis Elizondo, this view is shared by some in the upper echelons of the Pentagon. Immediately before the 2021 Pentagon report was released, Elizondo had stated that his efforts to look into UFOs were sometimes rebuffed on the basis of religious beliefs. On one occasion when he was speaking with an official about the UFO problem, the man looked at him and asked point-blank, "Have you read the Bible lately?"

When Elizondo, replied that yes, he was actually fairly well versed in scripture, the official shot back, "Well, then you should know that these things are demonic and we should not be pursuing them." Elizondo says that the very presence of the ETs bothers some high-up Pentagon officials on a theological level. Furthermore, since the good book refers to Satan as the Prince of the Power of the Air, some of them reason that the UFOs infiltrating our airspace must be from hell itself.

This is also a point that Nick Redfern has been trying to make for several years now, and one which he elaborated on at length in his 2010 book *Final Events*. Redfern had become aware of a group in the Pentagon called the Collins Elite which took the stance that UFOs were indeed satanic. According to him, this group concluded that the entities behind UFOs were attempting to deceive humanity into thinking that they were extraterrestrials when in fact they were essentially malevolent interdimensional entities (AKA demons) who were here to manipulate and exploit humanity for their own ends.

This theory also contends that the more people pay attention to and are aware

of this demonic presence, the more powerful these demons become. Which sounds pretty absurd on the surface, like saying the more you believe in Santa Claus, the more Christmas presents you'll get. But some folks in the Pentagon have apparently determined that these beings thrive on human psychic energy, and the more humans focus on them, the more powerful they become.

As crazy as it sounds, that would at least explain one odd aspect of the UFO phenomenon: how UFOs sometimes appear in front of people and engage in radical maneuvers as if they are trying to attract attention. If aliens (or demons) are indeed out to get attention, so they can feast upon the resultant energy emitted by human observers, such feats of extravagant maneuvering would do the trick.

Redfern says that the theory also explains why the Pentagon spent so long trying to cover up UFOs completely. It was deemed a national security issue to keep the public from unintentionally feeding into the phenomenon. The top brass felt that the best way to handle UFO incursions was to literally ignore them and hope they went away.

And if it turns out that these alleged aliens are actually demons from hell, Elizondo's erstwhile coworkers at the Pentagon just might have been on to something. In occult circles, it has long been postulated that demonic entities feed on human energy, so the more the living fixate on them, the stronger they can manifest themselves in this reality. Could it be that when full disclosure finally comes, these demonic entities, who are currently very limited in what they can do, will suddenly become so powerful by virtue of human belief that they will have free reign over the Earth? This is apparently what the Collins Elite feared, and it was a good enough argument to keep the lid of secrecy on UAPs as tight as possible.

And if they're Real…What do they Want?

After wondering where ET visitors might be from, the next—and arguably even more important—the question is, if they are here, what in the world do they want? Science fiction has proffered many possibilities; imaginative storytellers have given us alien motivations that range from conquest to the mining of rare minerals, to biological experimentation, to sheer boredom. And of course, scientists and UFO buffs have plenty of theories of their own. Here are a few of the main explanations that have been bounced around as to why aliens might want to visit the blue little ball that we call planet Earth.

They Are Studying Us

In many ways, the idea that aliens are merely extraterrestrial scientists studying humanity would make the most sense. After all, it's most likely what we would do if the tables were turned. If we ever manage to travel to another world and discover a less advanced civilization there, our first impulse would probably be to send in a bunch of space-faring anthropologists and learn as much as possible about our newfound alien friends.

Many reports of UFO activity seem to corroborate this motive as well. UFOs have been witnessed in remote places, hovering over lakes and streams, literally sucking water up into the craft. Is some ET scientist interested in studying fresh water samples from Earth? Maybe. Some folks have also seen the occupants of UFOs step out and take soil samples. And that's exactly what humans would do on an alien world—in fact, we're already doing it on Mars.

But the clearest indicator of an ET effort to study humanity is no doubt the abduction phenomenon. Suppose for a moment that the reports of alien abduction are true. That would seem to indicate a clear interest on the part of the visiting ETs in studying and understanding all aspects of human biology.

People are supposedly picked up, placed on a table, and studied from head to toe. Skin samples, blood samples, and more disturbingly sperm and ova samples are routinely extracted from abductees.

And just like human scientists studying wild animals, the ETs sometimes plant tracking devices in the people they study. This device is generally described as a small chip, about the size of a grain of rice, that apparently tracks the abductee's location and allows the aliens to find him for follow-up examinations. Is planet Earth just a huge wildlife reserve that aliens are studying? Anything's possible.

They Are in Search of Resources

Another—slightly more startling—theory as to why aliens might be visiting our planet relates to Earth's abundant resources. We just mentioned that UFOs sometimes hover over fresh water and suck the water up, possibly to study it. But what if, instead of studying it, they're *stealing* it? What if these ETs come from a world where water is running out? Would they really travel several light-years just to take it from us? And what if the UFOs we've seen so far are just scout ships? What if aliens one day send a whole fleet to literally suck the earth dry of *all* of its water? Pretty frightening, right?

The more we know about the universe, however, the less likely this theory seems. Although the water was once believed to be a rare commodity in the universe, we now know that it's actually quite common. The Moon and Mars both have frozen water, and many of the moons of the gas giants have literal oceans of frozen water. If that weren't enough, astronomers have discovered giant clouds of water vapor—some of them larger than our solar system itself—floating in space.

So water is not particularly rare, and neither are many other resources. Gold, for example, though highly sought after on Earth, is a common element in the asteroid belt. If aliens were after rare minerals such as gold, they would most likely get them from the asteroid belt rather than struggling with Earth's gravity and population.

Of course, there could be some rare resource on our planet that we humans are totally ignorant of. So no matter how unlikely, the possibility remains.

They Are Trying to Conquer Us

The idea that aliens would travel across the gulf of space just to conquer humanity has been a trope of science fiction for well over a hundred years, ever since H. G. Wells detailed an attack by Martians in his famous sci-fi epic *The War of the Worlds*. The novel was written in 1898 before anyone knew that Mars was uninhabited, but despite Wells' ignorance of actual conditions on the Red Planet, his characterization of humanity's reaction to alien conquest is still quite gripping.

But if the current UFO activity over American skies, as documented by the Pentagon, is indeed an alien infiltration—could it be that they are trying to conquer us? At least one aspect of the UFO phenomenon does lend credence to this notion. The fact that UFOs routinely show up at high-security military installations, and even nuclear weapons sites, raises the possibility that they are actively testing our military defenses. On many occasions, the craft seems to be downright toying with the fighter jets sent to intercept them. They do not attack, but they do play bizarre cat-and-mouse games in which they flaunt their ability to evade whatever we send after them. According to some pilots, they even mimic their own flight patterns, as if in open mockery of the humans who dared to intercept them.

The idea that these are trial runs testing human military strength before an outright invasion, is most certainly something that the Pentagon itself has taken into consideration. On the other hand, as has been said many times—often by pilots who have personally engaged these craft—these UFOs seem so far beyond human technology that if they wanted to wipe us out, they wouldn't have much trouble doing so. If these crafts are 1,000 years ahead of the most advanced human tech, our weapons really wouldn't stand a chance.

Besides this, if an alien civilization really wanted to wipe us out, they could probably do so without even entering the Earth's atmosphere. Most likely they would bombard us from space, or perhaps even use tractor beams to

send giant asteroids hurtling into the Earth and leave us as extinct as the dinosaurs. All of the drama presented by H.G. Wells in *The War of the Worlds* wouldn't even be necessary—these ETs could probably incinerate the planet in mere seconds before us hapless humans even knew what hit us. If visiting ETs want to conquer us, they're obviously not in much of a hurry, because it doesn't seem that humanity would last very long in an all-out war of the worlds.

They Would like to Welcome Us into a Galactic Federation

On the opposite end of the spectrum from ETs wanting to conquer and enslave us is the notion that they would like to welcome human beings with open arms into a brotherhood—a galactic federation, if you will—of sentient species. This notion has been floated in both science fiction and supposedly real-life accounts of ETs.

The classic science fiction film *The Day the Earth Stood Still* featured such tropes as humanity needing to become more peaceful to join a galactic brotherhood. Similarly, the so-called Contactees of the 1950s claimed to have encountered ETs who told them that their mission was to bring humanity into a peaceful federation of sentient beings. The Contactees' message remains a popular part of UFO lore to this very day—and not just among lay people.

In the last few days of 2020, a bizarre news story surfaced involving a former head of Israel's space security division, Haim Eshed. Now retired, Eshed made some rather interesting claims about aliens in an interview. He stated that it is the aliens themselves who have urged world governments not to spill the beans on their presence just yet. He claimed that these aliens are part of a "galactic federation" and although they longed for humanity to one day join their ranks, they stressed that human beings were not yet ready to do so. Eshed said that the aliens have secretly entered into a treaty with the U.S government, but are waiting for the right time to openly reveal themselves to the rest of humanity.

He also claimed that President Donald Trump had been briefed on what was happening. According to Eshed, Trump was "on the verge of revealing" what the aliens were up to, but was convinced at the last minute that it would not be in humanity's best interest to know about it. Eshed closed his remarks by stating that the aliens are patiently "waiting for the day" that human beings will be ready to join them as equal partners in their galactic federation.

They are Conducting A Hybridization Program

The idea that aliens are conducting a hybridization program to blend human and alien genes together comes straight out of the countless accounts of alien abduction. If all abduction accounts are false and merely figments of the imagination, then this theory does not hold water. However, if there is any truth behind what the alien abductees are saying, it would seem pretty clear that hybridization must be on the agenda of these ETs. Without fail, almost all alien abduction accounts offer up glimpses of what seems to be a massive program to blend human and alien DNA.

Famous UFO researcher and Temple University alum David M. Jacobs has spent the better part of his career studying the testimony of abductees. He has written three major books on the subject, and he too has concluded that a major hybridization program is underway. Even more alarmingly, Jacobs contends that the end goal of the aliens is to slowly "replace" regular human beings with alien/human hybrids who are fully capable of surviving in an earthly environment, yet also retain the same intellectual capacity as their alien forebears.

This stuff sounds about as far-fetched as it gets. But if it's true, rather than an outright takeover, these aliens are in it for the long haul. They are conducting a clandestine infiltration of the Earth that could take several generations to complete.

They Wish to Raise Our Conscious Awareness

An alleged alien motivation often repeated by New Age style UFO believers is that they are on a peaceful mission to "raise our consciousness." Now, as nice as that may sound—what exactly does it mean? Well, according to these folks, aliens reside on a higher plain of consciousness, and in order for us mere mortals to fully understand them, we have to raise our level of consciousness as well.

According to accounts of alien encounters, these beings supposedly operate much differently than we do. For one, they communicate via telepathy rather than through vocal cords. This means that they hail from a telepathic society. Just imagine living in a society in which your family, friends, and everyone else can instantly read your thoughts! Such a society would have developed much differently than anything we could currently conceive of. Just imagine a society in which keeping a secret would be entirely impossible. Everyone would know everyone else's business and the motivation behind every action. For the uninitiated, such a thing sounds fairly frightening.

On the bright side, however, if you've ever felt misunderstood in life, in such an environment of raised consciousness, you would never be misunderstood ever again. Everyone would understand you loud and clear, the second they read your mind! Despite how chaotic and frightening a telepathic society might seem at first glance, we would undoubtedly get used to this mode of living, and eventually adjust and perhaps even benefit from living in a truly open and connected society. Do ETs wish to raise our consciousness? It could be.

They Want to Steal Our Souls

As silly as this might sound, it dovetails into another UFO theory—namely that ETs are actually demons masquerading as aliens. And as anyone knows, Satan wants to steal our souls, right? Supposedly these demonic entities feed upon the energy of the human soul and long for a day when they can "harvest" all human souls all at once.

Interestingly enough, there is another theory about aliens—not demons—that also contends that the human soul may be a big draw for visiting ETs. In this

theory, aliens are artificially intelligent robots constructed several eons ago. The robots' biological manufacturers have long since died out, yet their robotic creations still scour the universe in search of life. These automatons understand that as robots they do not have that same spark of creation known as a soul that sentient biological beings do—yet they would very much like to have one. It is for this reason that they study humans and seek to learn how to manipulate or even capture human souls. Far-fetched, right? But then again, it's all pretty far out.

A Complete Breakdown of the Pentagon's Report

Even though the language of the Pentagon's official report on UFOs is rather subdued and sedate, the implications are nothing short of incredible. To understand this report, one must read between the lines of official obfuscation. The first indication of the seriousness of UAPs comes in the second bullet point after the Executive Summary: "Most of the UAP reported probably do represent physical objects given that a majority of UAP were registered across multiple sensors, to include radar, infrared, electro-optical, weapon seekers, and visual observation."

Yes, the report opens up with a frank admission that whatever the UAPs are, they are most likely solid "physical objects." So even though one of the later listed possibilities is that UAPs are weather phenomena, the very beginning of the report seems to have already, firmly ruled that out. In fact, this assessment that UAPs are solid objects seems to render the whole "UAP" euphemism unnecessary. The Pentagon, you see, switched from calling these unknown craft UFOs to UAPs just in case they turned out not to be actual objects. As this opening salvo from the Pentagon's report makes clear, however, "most of the UAP reported probably do represent physical objects." And since most of these "physical objects" are seen flying through the sky—then what are they? They're UFOs! Unidentified Flying Objects!

Okay, now that this is out of the way—what does the rest of the report tell us? Well, being about as vague as it possibly can, the report goes on to state that UFOs most likely fall into just a few possibilities. Either they are the result of natural atmospheric phenomena, top-secret U.S technology, foreign adversary systems, or something which the report simply refers to as "Other."

Now, obviously, the statement at the very beginning of the report that most UAPs are probably physical objects dismisses the possibility that they are merely the result of natural atmospheric phenomena. So go ahead and scratch that off the list. The report also makes clear that most UAPs are not the result

of top-secret U.S. technology. So, take that off the list as well.

With these two eliminated, that leaves just two other possibilities—either UAPs originate from foreign adversaries such as Russia and China, or they fall into that mysterious "Other" category. Buried further down in the Pentagon report, however, under the heading of "Potential National Security Challenges", is the statement that "We currently lack data to indicate any UAP are part of a foreign collection program or indicative of a major technological advancement by a potential adversary."

In other words, there is no indication that this strange craft was built by Russia, China, or any other nation on Earth. So even though the report does not go right out and say it, through a simple process of elimination it suggests that the most likely category for UAPs is "Other." Thanks to the Pentagon report, we know that when it comes to UAPs, it's not us, and it's not anyone else on Earth—so it's up to the rest of us to fill in the blanks. Is it aliens? Well—your guess is as good as mine.

Further Readings

Now that we have brought this book to its conclusion, let's take a moment to consider some of the reading and reference material that has helped to make it all possible. Here you will find a wide variety of sources that have considered the UFO phenomenon from different angles. Please feel free to go over them for yourself.

A.D. After Disclosure: When the Government Finally Reveals the Truth About Alien Contact. Richard M. Dolan and Bryce Zabel
Here in this book, Richard Dolan takes us through all of the hypothetical situations that might occur, should the government disclose what it knows about UFOs. Written in 2012, some of his concepts seem almost prophetic in light of recent events.

The Presidents and UFOs: A Secret History from FDR to Obama. Larry Holcombe
Mr. Holcombe presents us with interesting accounts of what several U.S. presidents might know about UFOs.

Final Events: And the Secret Government Group on Demonic UFOs and the Afterlife. Nick Redfern
Nick Redfern explores one of the strangest possibilities of all, regarding UFOs.

Walking Among Us: The Alien Plan to Control Humanity. David M. Jacobs PhD
David M. Jacobs' views are certainly controversial, but the accounts he has collected are still rather astonishing, all the same.

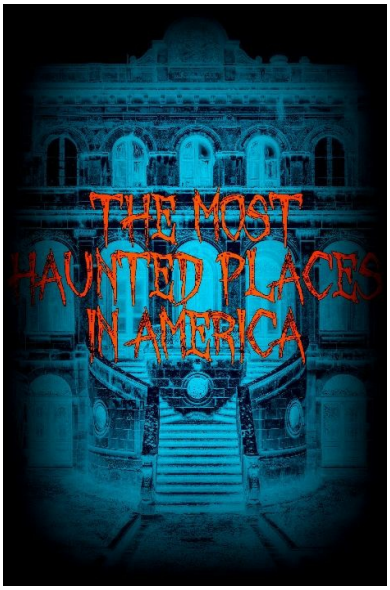
On the Trail of the Saucer Spies: UFOs and Government Surveillance. Nick Redfern
Here in this book, Nick Redfern takes us inside the dark and mysterious world of counterintelligence as it pertains to the UFO phenomenon.

Preliminary Assessment: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena. Office of the Director of National Intelligence

The Pentagon's preliminary assessment has been an invaluable resource in the writing of this book.

Your FREE Gift!

Thank you again for buying and reading my book. Don’t forget to get **your FREE gift**, The Most Haunted Places in America. **Click here to get it.**



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Review

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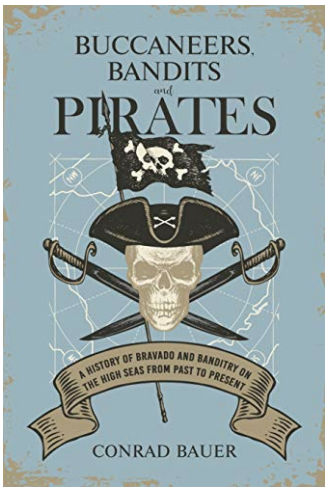
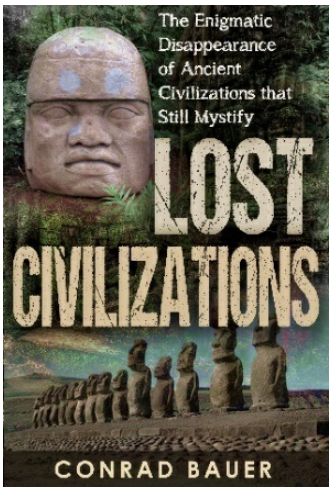
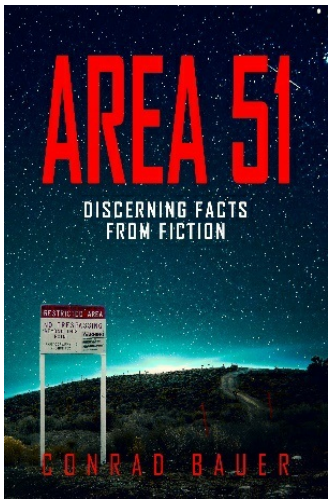
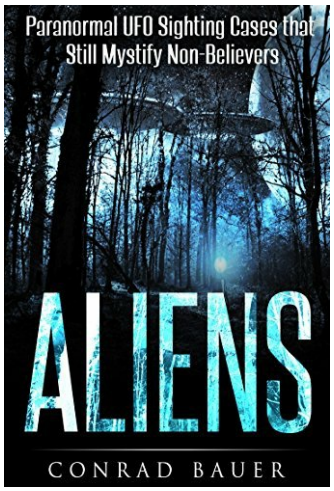
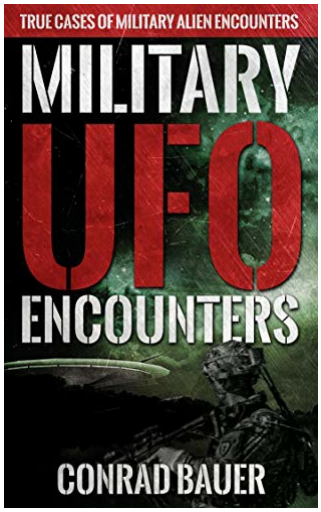
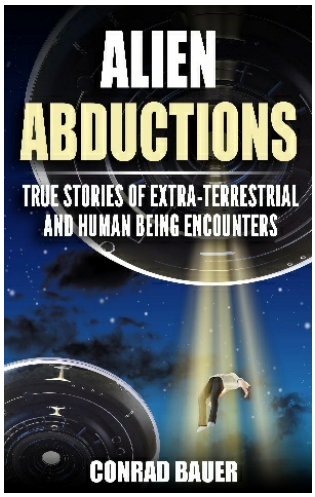


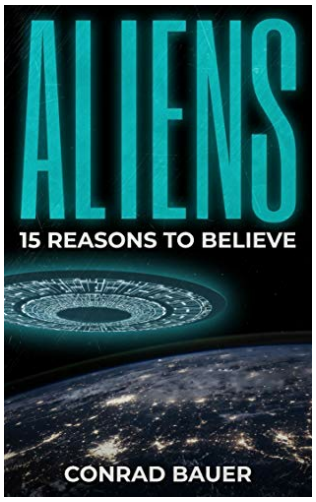


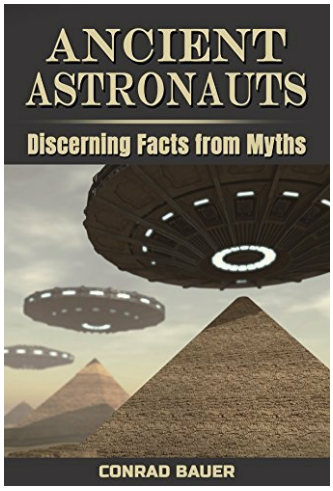


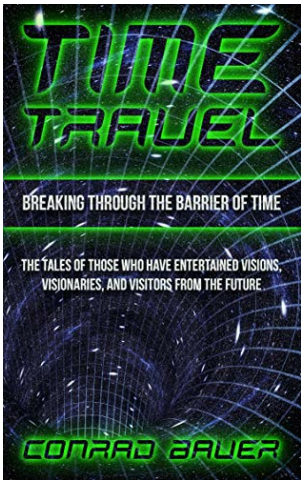







ALIENS
15 REASONS TO BELIEVE
CONRAD BAUER


ANCIENT ASTRONAUTS
Discerning Facts from Myths
CONRAD BAUER


TIME TRAVEL
BREAKING THROUGH THE BARRIER OF TIME
THE TALES OF THOSE WHO HAVE ENTERTAINED VISIONS, VISIONARIES, AND VISITORS FROM THE FUTURE
CONRAD BAUER

Excerpt from Conrad Bauer's Book *Area 51*

Hiding in Plain Sight

There have been whispered rumors about a secret base somewhere in the Nevada desert for decades. In its early days, the "Nevada Test Site" was known for the fiery atomic blasts that took place there. Although the nuclear testing program was ostensibly top secret, it was kind of hard to hide the smoking gun of a mushroom cloud. Back in the late 1940s and early 1950s, in fact, area residents used to hold watch parties where they would sit outside and enjoy the toasty glow of the gamma rays. So much for duck and cover!

During the 1960s and 1970s, it was also generally known that top-secret military aircraft were being tested at the installation near Groom Lake. However, most people had better things to do than venturing into the inhospitable wasteland to get a peek, and the base's existence was little more than a local curiosity.

It wasn't until the 1980s that Area 51 truly entered the national spotlight. In 1984, TV producer Jaime Shandera received an anonymous envelope in the mail. It contained documents purporting to be a highly classified memo describing a secret UFO study group called Majestic 12—and claiming that living extraterrestrials and their spacecraft had been transported to Area 51. Shandera didn't reveal the mysterious documents until 1987. But once he did, it was like a bomb went off.

A year later a major expose on UFOs called *UFO Cover-Up?: Live!* appeared on network TV, detailing in part a secretive base in Nevada where alien beings had allegedly been taken. The aliens were supposedly under the care of the U.S. government and from time to time were treated to… strawberry

ice cream. Now, the claim that Uncle Sam was hosting extraterrestrial visitors was intriguing; the assertion that he was serving them strawberry ice cream seemed slightly ridiculous. Predictably, it ended up becoming the most memorable part of the program, completely overshadowing the more astonishing material presented— and some have since argued that it might have been a bit of disinformation thrown into the mix to make the rest of the stunning info seem less believable. Then again, reality is usually stranger than fiction, so who really knows? Maybe ETs do like strawberry ice cream after all!

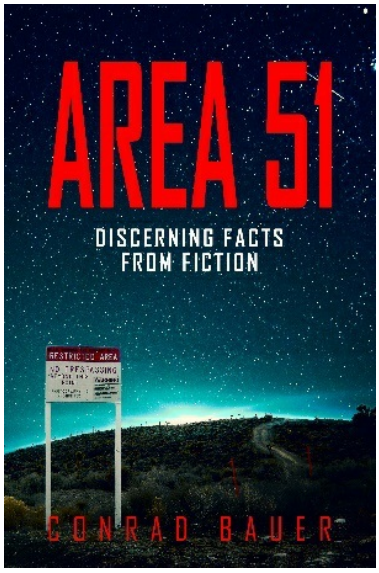
At any rate, a year after this TV show aired a guy named Bob Lazar came forward with his own tale of UFOs and ETs at Area 51. He hadn't seen a gray-skinned alien slurping up strawberry ice cream on the base, but he did claim to have been briefed with documents indicating that the U.S. military was well aware of aliens and their spacecraft. His natural suspicions as to the veracity of those documents had then vanished when he was assigned to work on an alien reactor that could generate gravitational fields.

It was after Lazar told his Area 51 story that Dreamland became a household name. But even though it was clearly visible through high powered telescopes and in satellite imagery, military officials continued to insist that they didn't know anything about it. In the ensuing years, it became kind of a running gag to talk about the base that didn't officially exist—but when former Area 51 employees began dying of cancer in the 1980s and 1990s, it wasn't quite so funny anymore. Several lawsuits prompted an unofficial admission in 1994, and then in 2013, the government finally came clean and admitted what the whole world already knew—yes, Area 51 does exist.

The base may thus have lost some of its mysterious sheen, but it still attracts plenty of interest—as was demonstrated in 2019 when over two million people declared over the internet their desire to "Storm Area 51." In the end, thankfully enough, this would-be assault on a military installation by an army of social media trolls devolved into nothing more than a few drunks wandering around the Nevada desert. But the publicity the nonevent generated serves as a clear demonstration of just how powerful the imagery of Area 51 remains.

This book follows both the known history and the *unknown* history of the world's most secretive facility that's been hiding in plain sight for all of these years.

To continue reading, click on the cover or here



A Mysterious Military-Industrial Complex Takes Root

The rumors and conspiracy theories surrounding Area 51 are so fantastic that the more skeptical among us might once have been tempted to tell ourselves that the entire place was a myth. But even if you don't believe in UFOs, aliens, and reverse-engineered spacecraft, you can now rest assured that Area 51 is very real. Its existence was officially acknowledged in 2013, and it has a history stretching back well over half a century before that.

The military first set up shop in the region back in 1940, when America was already gearing up for World War Two. Looking for a secure and remote location to test out the latest in munitions, the U.S. Army acquired some three million acres of Nevada desert that would later be called the Las Vegas Bombing and Gunnery Range.

The next big development came in the late 1940s when the site was designated by the Atomic Energy Commission for testing of nuclear bombs. The Commission created a numbered grid system to identify specific "Areas" of the site, and Area 51 was initially just another run-of-the-mill section on this grid. Soon, though, the newly created U.S. Air Force moved into a section of Area 51 called Groom Lake, and shortly after that, they partnered with the CIA on something called Project AQUATONE.

By this point in the 1950s, the icy chill of the Cold War had completely frozen U.S. relations with the Soviet Union. The Americans had no idea what their rival nuclear superpower was doing behind the Iron Curtain, and they wanted to find out. Project AQUATONE entailed developing a plane that could out-fly the Soviets and sail unmolested through Soviet airspace while a CIA pilot took pictures of what the Reds were up to down below. Specifically, they needed an aircraft that could fly higher than anything else in the world. What they came up with was the U-2 spy plane. The first U-2 prototype made its maiden flight on August 4, 1955. With a flight ceiling of 70,000 feet, the U-2 was truly revolutionary. It could fly far higher than Soviet planes of the era, and it was even difficult for Soviet ground radar to

track.

Nevertheless, the Americans weren't taking any chances. The last thing they needed was the Soviets shooting down a U.S. Air Force plane and using it as an excuse to start World War Three. It was for this reason that they used only CIA agents, rather than Air Force officers, as pilots for the U-2. Instead of USAF insignia, they slapped NACA logos on the plane's sides. NACA, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, was the direct predecessor of NASA, and in the event that a U-2 pilot had to bail out over enemy territory, it was hoped that he could avoid being shot as a spy by claiming that he was a civilian monitoring meteorological phenomena and had simply been blown off course. Many of the CIA pilots, though, were skeptical that the Russians would go for such a yarn—so much so, that it was standard procedure to bring a cyanide capsule along for the flight.

After five years of flying the U-2, the CIA's luck finally ran out when a pilot named Gary Powers was shot down by a Soviet SAM (surface-to-air missile) in the spring of 1960. Newspapers erupted with headlines about how the Russians had shot down a "spy plane" and the U.S. was forced to reveal the U-2 to the world. Interestingly enough, when Powers was being interrogated by the Russians, one of the questions they kept asking him repeatedly was about Area 51. Yes, long before the American public knew much of anything about the secretive base, the KGB had already picked up on it. But the existence of Area 51 was one secret that Gary Powers was not willing to give up, and no matter how much the Soviets grilled him about the home base of his unusual aircraft, he lied and told them it was in California.

Powers was ultimately released in 1962 when the Russians agreed to exchange him for a spy of theirs whom the Americans had been holding. Meanwhile, the unexpected shoot-down of his U-2 had sent the folks at Area 51 literally back to the drawing board.